

SENATE BILL NO. 455

INTRODUCED BY K. TOOLE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT SPECIFYING A PERMISSIBLE BILLING PERIOD FOR ELECTRIC AND GAS UTILITY CUSTOMER BILLING STATEMENTS; AND AMENDING SECTION 69-8-409, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 69-8-409, MCA, is amended to read:

"69-8-409. Billing period -- Bill bill information -- customer nonpayment -- commission rulemaking. (1) The permissible range of days for an electric utility customer billing statement is 28 to 32 days.

(1)(2) Electricity bills to consumers must disclose each component of the bill in accordance with rules promulgated by the commission. Electricity bills must disclose but are not limited to the following:

(a) distribution and transmission charges;

(b) electricity supply charges;

(c) transition charges; and

(d) universal system benefits charges.

(2)(3) The commission shall promulgate rules establishing the procedures relating to how and when an electricity supplier may discontinue service to a customer because of the customer's nonpayment and the procedures relating to reconnection, except that those rules may not apply to electricity suppliers that are cooperative utilities.

(3)(4) Local governing bodies of a cooperative utility shall retain authority for cooperative utilities regarding:

(a) customer nonpayment and reconnection; and

(b) information contained in electricity bills to consumers."

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Billing period. The permissible range of days for a gas utility customer billing statement is 28 to 32 days.

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Codification instruction. [Section 2] is intended to be codified as an

1 integral part of Title 69, chapter 3, part 14, and the provisions of Title 69, chapter 3, part 14, apply to [section 2].

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